in order to recover lawyer's fees. However, a suit was filed by the bank's Dharamtala branches in 1985 for recovery of bank's dues in respect of a vehicle loan. During the pendency of the suit, one of the parties involved came to the bank for settling the dues. However, the terms of compromise have not been complied with. There is also a reported dispute among the parties. The suit is still pending. The borrower/guarantor have not approached the bank for waiver of further recovery of dues. The bank has also clarified that no additional expenditure has been incurred by it on account of legal charges.

Seizure of Gold and Silver

2305. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total quantity and value of gold and silver seized by the Customs and other Government Departments during the year 1991-92 and so far during the current year with details of 10 major cases in terms of value;

(b) what are the rates of rewards for informers and officers for such seizures and total amount paid during the year 1991-92 to officers and informers, separately and what are the names of the first 5 officers who have done commendable job in this regard during the year 1991-92;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to honour and decorate such officers suitably on the pattern of army officers for their outstanding performance and devotion to duty and integrity;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) whether any complaint of planting informers have come to notice of Government and if so, what action has been taken in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) The quantity and value of gold and silver seized during the financial year 1991-92 and during the current financial year upto 31-10-92 are given in the table below :

1991-92				1992-93 upto 31-10-92			
Gold		Silver		Gold		Silver	
Quantity (in Kgs.)	Value (Rs. in crores)	Quantity (in Kgs.)	Value (Rs. in crores)	Quantity (in Kgs.)	Value (Rs. in crores)	Quantity (in Kgs.)	Value (Rs. in crores)
4645	188.58	188305	138.56	1587	67.90	78787	58.95

The details of major cases are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Informers and government servants are eligible for rewards upto a maximum of Rs. 500 per 10 grams for gold and Rs. 1000 per kg. for silver. The actual reward paid within this ceiling depends upon various factors such as specificity and accuracy of the information, the risk and trouble undertaken, etc. in the case of informers and the risk taken and role played by the individual in the case of Government servants. The total amount of reward given during the financial year 1991-92 was Rs. 29.39 crores (figure provisional). The amount of reward given to informers and officers separately is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. The information regarding the first five officers who have done commendable job in this regard during the year 1991-92 is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) Presidential Awards of appreciation certificates for distinguished record of service and meritorious service at the risk of life are already being given to

deserving Customs officers. It is not proposed to introduce any new Scheme.

(e) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. Action under the laws/rules is taken.

बुनकरों से प्राप्त प्रतिवेदन

2306. श्री अनन्तराम जायसवाल : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अप्रैल, 1992 के अंतिम सप्ताह में बाराबंकी बुनकर फेडरेशन के अध्यक्ष श्री मुनव्वर अली के नेतृत्व में बुनकरों के एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने उनसे भेंट करके उन्हें एक प्रतिवेदन दिया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रतिवेदन के अनुसार प्रतिनिधि मंडल की मांगें क्या थीं और सरकार ने प्रत्येक मांग के संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर ठाकुर) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) फेडरेशन ने विस्कोस स्टेपल फाइबर और यार्न पर उत्पाद शुल्क समाप्त करने का अनुरोध किया है । वर्ष 1993-94 के आगामी बजट को ध्यान में रखते हुए, इस स्तर पर कोई टिप्पणी नहीं की जा सकती है ।

Effect of Securities SCAM on Foreign Investment

2307. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that following the securities scam a perceptible change in the foreign investment climate has come to Government's notice;

(b) what are the details of the proposals for foreign investments and collaborations for setting up or expansion, restructuring or rehabilitation of industries that have been dropped or postponed following the revelation of the Scam in April this year; and

(c) what are the details of the foreign investment and collaboration proposals that have been finalised during this period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b) The foreign investment climate is determined by a large number of factors relating to the state of the domestic economy, perceptions of the policy framework and diversion of policy, the state of the world economy, etc. The security scam did lead to some negative perceptions but the determination of the government to correct deficiencies and proceed with financial sector reforms has offset this. The number and value of proposals and approvals for foreign investments and collaboration have been increased substantially compared to last year. Thus, there has been no perceptible adverse effect on the foreign investment inflow.

(c) Total foreign investment envisaged in foreign collaboration approvals accorded during the period from May, 92 to October, 1992 totalled Rs. 2262.44 crores as against Rs. 1417.19 crores during the period from August, 1991 to April, 1992.

Halt in investment activities due to securities SCAM

2308. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH :
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to reports that since the Securities, Scam came to light, investment activities, including constructive and safe ones had by and large come to a halt;

(b) if so, what is the assessment about the magnitude and dimentions of such transactions made by Nationalised Banks including the RBI and SBI branches during the months since April, 1992 monthwise and the comparative figures for the corresponding preceding period; and